

Message Text

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S E C R E T KINSHASA 10165

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FROM MULCAHY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CT, FS, UR

SUBJECT: BOKASSA-MULCAHY MEETING

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT BOKASSA, IN A FORTY-MINUTE CONVERSATION WITH ME, DISCUSSED THE KOREAN RESOLUTION AND THE ANGOLAN SITUATION AND STRONGLY REITERATED SUPPORT FOR THE US POSITION ON THESE TWO ISSUES. HE WAS PLEASED WITH US-CAR RELATIONS AND DID NOT RPT NOT REQUEST ANY AID.

2. BOKASSA FOCUSED HIS OPINING REMARKS ON HIS OPPOSITION TO COMMUNISM AND ADDED THAT THE PRC ACTIVITIES IN BOTH ANGOLA AND THE FAR EAST MUST BE CONTAINED, SAYING THAT THE PRC WANTS TAIWAN AND SOUTH DOREA AND "ONE DAY THEY WILL DESCEND ON AFRICA." HE REMINDED ME OF CAR'S SUPPORT OF THE SOUTH KOREANS IN THE UN AND ADDED THAT EVENTS IN INDOCHINA HAD SHOWN COMMUNIST UNRELIABILITY IN NEGOTIATION. I EXPRESSED OUR HOPE THAT WITHIN THE NEXT YEAR A KOREAN RESOLUTION WOULD BE DEVELOPED WHICH WOULD REMOVE THAT SOURCE OF DISCORD AND THAKED HIM FOR HIS STRONG SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE, ASSURING HIM THAT WE CONSIDERED THE KOREAN QUESTION A VITAL POINT.

3. WITH REGARD TO ANGOLA, BOKASSA NOTED HIS UNHAPPINESS WITH THE CHINESE AND SOVIETS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE FIGHTING IN ANGOLA WHICH HAD "NOW CAUSED MORE DEATHS THAN BIAFRA OR THE EARLY CONGO." I STATED OUR POSITION OF REMAINING DISTANCED

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(A L'ECART) FROM THE DISPUTE. BOKASSA AGREED WITH OUR POLICY,

BUT STRONGLY URGED THAT WE CONTINUE COVERT AID "AS THE DANGER IS GREAT" FROM THE SOVIET SIDE. I POINTED OUT THE SOVIET DISREGARD OF AFRICA'S OPINION AS REGISTERED BY THEIR IGNORING THE OAU POSITION ON RECOGNITION, OBSERVED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD RECENTLY CABLED SECRETARY-GENERAL ETEIKI TO REAFFIRM US SUPPORT FOR OAU POLICY ON ANGOLA AND MENTIONED MY MEETING WITH AMIN. BOKASSA SAID AN OAU HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT ON ANGOLA WAS POSSIBLE, BUT THAT HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO ATTEND DUE TO CELEBRATIONS SCHEDULED IN BANGUI DURING THE FIRST HALF OF DECEMBER.

4. BOKASSA, TRACING SOVIET RELATIONS WITH AFRICA, RECALLED NASSER'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SOVIETS (WANTED THEM ONLY FOR HEAVY INDUSTRY) AND STATED THAT SADAT (OF WHOM HE SPOKE HIGHLY) WAS CARRYING THROUGH NASSER'S INTENTIONS WHEN HE REFUSED TO LET SOVIETS PRESSURE HIM. HE FELT THAT SINCE ISRAEL HAD NOT BEEN DISLOGED AND THE SOVIETS HAD LOST UPPER HAND IN EGYPT, THEY HAD NOW TURNED THEIR ATTENTION TO ANGOLA. BOKASSA ALSO MENTIONED PROBLEM HE HAD EXPERIENCED IN HIS OWN RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW (INCLUDING A CENTRAL AFRICAN STUDENT'S BEING SHOT BY A RUSSIAN CHAUFFEUR AND THE KIDNAPPING OF A DIPLOMAT). CAR'S AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE, WHO HAD SERVED THREE YEARS IN MOSCOW, AND CAR'S FOREIGN MINISTER (BOTH OF WHOM ATTENDED MEETING), VIGOROUSLY AGREED.

5 I EXPLAINED TO BOKASSA THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD ALREADY SENT HIM A LETTER, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE WAITING FOR HIM IN BANGUI. BOKASSA ASKED ME TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT THAT HE IS HAPPY WITH US-CAR COOPERATION, AND WAS ESPECIALLY PLEASED WITH THE PEACE CORP, FOR WHICH HE HAD EXTREMELY KIND WORDS. NOTING THAT "WE LOOK AT PROBLEMS THE SAME WAY," HE HOPED OUR FRIENDSHIP WOULD CONTINUE. HE REGISTERED NO COMPLAINTS AND REQUESTED NO AID. WALKER

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